

Appln No. 09/856,969

Filed: August 1, 2001

Page 4

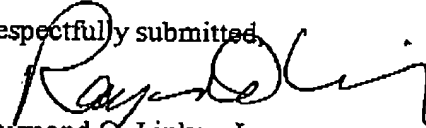
REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 10-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, enablement. In particular, the Examiner notes that a suitable preactivation of the enterocytes necessitates that the activating cytokines comprise a combination of Interleukin- β (IL-1 β), Tumor Necrosis Factor- α (TNF- α) and Interferon- γ (IFN- γ), and the Examiner points to the specification at page 6, lines 6-10.

To overcome the enablement rejection, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to recite that the enterocytes are preactivated with a mixture of pro-inflammatory cytokines comprising IL-1 β , TNF- α and IFN- γ . Therefore, Claim 1 is now commensurate in scope with the teaching noted by the Examiner at page 6, lines 6-10 of Applicant's specification.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the claims as now presented are fully enabled by Applicant's specification. Reconsideration by the Examiner, withdrawal of the rejection and formal notification of the allowance of Claims 1-6 and 10-12 are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


Raymond O. Linker, Jr.
Registration No. 26,419**ALSTON & BIRD LLP**

Bank of America Plaza

101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000

Charlotte, NC 28280-4000

Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000

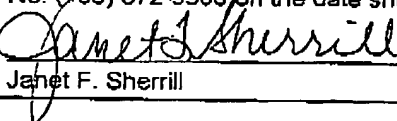
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

Customer No. 000826

CLT01/4639463v1

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on the date shown below.


Janet F. Sherrill

March 31, 2004

Date